

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A radio communication system performing multicast communication, wherein

mobile stations each comprise a response signal transmitter configured to transmit a response signal including a group ID identifying a multicast group to a base station, the response signal transmitted from each of the mobile stations in response to a control signal for multicast group; and

a base station comprises:

a response signal counter configured to count ~~the~~ a number of response signals including a same group ID identifying a same multicast group;

a judger configured to judge whether a counted number of response signals exceeds a configurable predetermined number that is a configurable variable; and

a response signal transmitter configured to transmit a single response signal including information that the counted number of response signals exceeds the configurable predetermined number, or the counted number of response signals, when the counted number of response signals exceeds the configurable predetermined number.

Claim 2 (Canceled).

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): A base station supporting multicast communication, the base station comprising:

a response signal counter configured to count ~~the~~ a number of response signals including a same group ID identifying a same multicast group, which are transmitted from mobile stations in response to a control signal for the same multicast group;

a judger configured to judge whether a counted number of response signals exceeds a configurable predetermined number that is a configurable variable; and

a response signal transmitter configured to transmit a single response signal including information that the counted number of response signals exceeds the configurable predetermined number, or the counted number of response signals, when the counted number of response signals exceeds the configurable predetermined number.

Claim 4 (Canceled).

Claim 5 (Previously Presented): The base station according to claim 3, further comprising a detector configured to detect a reception of a detected response signal transmitted from any one of the mobile stations; and wherein

a response signal holder holds the detected response signal for a predetermined duration after the reception of the detected response signal.

Claims 6-8 (Canceled).

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): A radio network controller supporting multicast communication, the radio network controller comprising:

a receiver configured to receive a single response signal transmitted from at least one base station, the single response signal including a same group ID identifying a same multicast group to which mobile stations are requesting to join and including information that a counted number of response signals transmitted from the mobile stations exceeds a configurable predetermined number that is a configurable variable;

an extractor configured to extract ~~the~~ a counted number of response signals from the single response signal; and

a radio controller configured to perform delivery control on the mobile stations joining in the same multicast group using a common circuit common to the mobile stations when the counted number of response signals exceeds the configurable predetermined number, and to perform delivery control using respective individual circuits of the mobile stations when the counted number of response signals is not extracted from the single response signal.

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): A radio network controller supporting multicast communication, the radio network controller comprising:

a receiver configured to receive a single response signal transmitted from at least one base station, the single response signal including a same group ID identifying a same multicast group to which mobile stations are requesting to join, and including a counted number of response signals;

an extractor configured to extract the counted number of response signals from the single response signal; and

a radio controller configured to perform delivery control on the mobile stations joining in the same multicast group using a common circuit common to the mobile stations when the counted number of response signals exceeds a configurable predetermined number that is a configurable variable, and to perform delivery control using respective individual circuits of the mobile stations when the counted number of response signals is not extracted from the single response signal.

Claim 11 (Currently Amended): The base station according to claim 3, wherein the response signal transmitter is configured to transmit the response signals transmitted from the mobile stations, instead of transmitting the single response signal, when the counted number of response signals does not exceed the configurable predetermined number.

Claim 12 (Currently Amended): The system of claim 1, wherein the judger is further configured to judge whether the counted number of response signals exceeds the configurable predetermined number for more than a predetermined duration.

Claim 13 (Currently Amended): The base station of claim 3, wherein the judger is further configured to judge whether the counted number of response signals exceeds the configurable predetermined number for more than a predetermined duration.